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**WOMEN LEGISLATORS OF MARYLAND**  
**THE MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

March 2, 2025

To: Delegate Joseline A. Pena-Melnyk, Chair  
Delegate Bonnie Cullison, Vice Chair  
Health and Government Operations Committee

On behalf of the Maryland Women's Caucus, we are proud to express our strong support for HB95: Health Care Providers – Assisted Reproductive Treatment – Informed Consent and Fraud. This essential legislation is a critical step in protecting patients undergoing assisted reproductive treatments, ensuring transparency, informed consent, and safeguarding against fertility fraud.

Assisted reproductive technology (ART) has provided countless individuals and families with the opportunity to conceive. However, there have been alarming cases of reproductive misconduct, including health care providers misusing reproductive materials without consent. This bill addresses these serious concerns by prohibiting health care providers from using their own reproductive material without explicit consent from the patient and ensuring that donor reproductive material is only used in accordance with the donor's informed and documented consent.

Currently, there is no comprehensive legal framework in Maryland to protect individuals from fertility fraud. Patients undergoing assisted reproductive treatments place their trust in medical professionals to adhere to ethical and transparent practices. Without clear legal protections, victims of reproductive fraud are left vulnerable to severe emotional, medical, and legal consequences. HB95 establishes critical safeguards that uphold patient autonomy, medical ethics, and accountability in reproductive health care.

Women and families in Maryland deserve the right to make fully informed decisions regarding their reproductive health and to trust that their health care providers operate with integrity. This legislation ensures that reproductive treatments are conducted ethically and transparently, preventing violations that have historically led to devastating consequences for victims and their families.

For these reasons, the Maryland Women's Caucus strongly urges the committee to issue a favorable report for HB95. Thank you for your time and consideration. We appreciate your commitment to protecting patient rights and reproductive integrity in Maryland.